(d) whether some shops have been constructed un-authorisedly on the piece of land; if so, by whom;

(e) what aciton the DDA is proposing to take the land back; and

(f) whether the DDA had issued any "No Objection Certificate" for granting electric connection for these shops; if so, on what basis and if not in what manner the electric connection has been provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Land has not been leased/ rented out by DDA. 6 small shops have however been constructed by unscrupulous persons.

(e) DDA has reported that action of removal of these shops will be taken as soon as the police force is available.

(f) DDA has not issued any No Objection Certificate for granting electric connection. DESU has reported that no electric connection has been provided to the shops in question. However one electric connection was given in the name of Secretary, Mata Vashnovi Devi Mandir C-1, Lawrence Road on the basis of necessary affidavit etc., as per proof of lawful occupancy, given by the Party.

Price of Vegetables and Fruits

2180. SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATTALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of vegetables and fruits have been increased in the country in the recent past;

(b) if so, to what extent and the reasons therefor;

(c) what were the prices of each item as on 31st March, 1986, 31st March, 1987, and on 31st March 1988; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMEN OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The prices of some fruits and green vegetables have increased in the recent past.

(b) The wholesale price index for fruits and vegetables on 23-4-88 stood at 463.6 which was higher by 15.2 per cent than the index of 402.4 for the month of January, 1988. The reason for the recent increase in the prices of vegetables and fruits is the seasonality factor.

(c) The index numbers of wholesale prices (1970-71=100) of vegetables and fruits in the last week of March, 1986, 1987 and 1988 alongwith the index number of 23-4-1988 are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(d) Various schemes have been drawn up by different States/UTs for increasing the production of these commodities. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), Mother Dairy, Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar and Civil Supplies Corporations of different States are retailing essential commodities including fruits and vegetables in the open market to stabilise prices.

Statement

All-India Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices

(Base 1970-71—100)

Commodity	All-India Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices			
	1988(P)		1987 (28/3)	1986 (29/3)
	(23/4)	(27/3)		
Fruits & Vegetables	463.6	440.0	418.8	373.4
Vegetables	304.5	271.9	299.2	321.8
Potato	170.9	149.1	190.3	250.1
Sweet Potato	266.7	311.2	296.0	266.4
Onion	622.0	549.1	486.6	278.9
Tapioca	464.9	392.2	481.2	560.3
Tomotoes	N.A.	188.0	287.3	251.0
Cauliflower	N.A.	222.9	212.4	235.4
Peas Green	N.A.	386.8	274.8	315.1
Fruits	572.0	554.6	500.4	408.5
Oranges	498.8	491.9	379.5	341.1
Bananas	612.8	587.7	521.7	350.6
Apples	403.8	371.0	316.3	324.6
Cashewnuts	764.5	764.5	816.3	710.7

P – Provisional

N.A. – Not available. These are not complied because of seasonality.

Indo-ICRISAT Collaboration

2181. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any link between ICRISAT (International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics) at Patanchervu in Andhra Pradesh and the Agricultural Ministry of the Government of India;

(b) if so, the programmes where such collaboration exists; and

(c) if the answer to the part (a) above be in the negative how does the existence of ICRISAT in India benefits agriculture development in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) MOA between ICAR & ICRISAT signed on 15th July, 1976 *Inter-alia* included (i) Cooperation & Collabora.